

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 L-02

AID-05 IGA-01 MC-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 EB-07

OMB-01 EUR-12 TRSE-00 OCL-00 /065 W

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P 020915Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2104

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 14235

SECDEF FOR ISA

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS ET

SUBJ: MINISTRY OF DEFENSE VEERS TOWARDS CONSUMMATION

FMS CASES

1. ADDRESSEES SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE EPMG HAS RECENTLY BEEN INDICATING A STRONG DESIRE TO IMMEDIATELY CONTINUE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TOTAL FMS PORTION OF THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WHICH THEY HELD IN ABEYANCE DURING THE RECENT LG AMAN-STATE DEPARTMENT DIALOGUE CONCERNING INCREASED US GRANT AID/CREDIT. THE FIRST EVIDENCE OF THIS SHIFT SURFACED ON 21 NOVEMBER (TWO DAYS BEFORE THE SATURDAY NIGHT MASSACRE). BY 25 NOVEMBER CHMAAG HAD DETERMINED THAT THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HAD STATED INTENTIONS TO:

A. MOVE RAPIDLY TO CONSUMMATE FMS CASH AND CREDIT CASES (INCLUDING TOW, VULCAN AND SECOND COMPLEMENT OF TANKS) NOW IN MILL.

B. SUBMIT LETTERS OF INTENT FOR ONE AN/TPS 43D RADAR AND 12 EACH F-5E'S.

2. ON 29 NOVEMBER CHMAAG HELD A ROUTINE MEETING WITH VMOD KIFLE TO REVIEW THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE
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PROGRAM AND USMAAG ADVISORY EFFORT. DURING THE MEETING THE

ABOVE INTENTIONS OF THE EPMG WERE COMPLETELY CONFIRMED. DURING THE COURSE OF THE DISCUSSIONS CHMAAG (A) INFORMED THE VMOD THAT THE SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WAS UNDER USG REVIEW; (B) REVIEWED IN DETAIL THE CURRENT STATUS OF EACH INDIVIDUAL WORKING FMS CASE TO ENSURE COMMON UNDERSTANDING; AND (C) HEARD VMOD STATE HIS INTENTIONS TO SUBMIT ONE LETTER OF INTENT COVERING BOTH THE F-5E'S AND THE RADAR.

3. A WIDE RANGE OF LESSER MUTUAL INTEREST AREAS WERE ALSO BRIEFLY DISCUSSED TO INCLUDE:

- A. STATUS OF KAGNEW LEASE AGREEMENT.
- B. MOD/GHQ REORGANIZATION.
- C. CONTINUATION OF PPBS AND JOINT COMMUNICATION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS.
- D. PROBABILITY OF GETTING NEW MOD APPOINTED.
- E. TECHNIQUES APPLICABLE TO BLANKET OPEN-END SUPPORT AGREEMENTS.
- F. IMPORTANCE OF GETTING AN APPOINTED FREIGHT FORWARDER.

4. CHMAAG PROBED GENTLY CONCERNING THE SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR THE PROJECTED PURCHASES. VMOD IMPLIED THAT HE COULD NOT DISCUSS SUBJECT.

5. IN SUMMARY, THE EPMG BEGAN, EVEN PRIOR TO LG AMAN'S DEATH, TO APPROACH THE FMS SCENARIO WITH CONSIDERABLY MORE ENTHUSIASM AND URGENCY THAN BEFORE. WE DO NOT AS YET KNOW THE REASON FOR THEIR CHANGE OF HEART -- OR THE SOURCE OF THEIR FINANCING. WYMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, CREDIT, MILITARY EQUIPMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ADDIS14235
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740348-0594
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741269/aaaachbm.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MINISTRY OF DEFENSE VEERS TOWARDS CONSUMMATION FMS CASES
TAGS: MASS, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005